



## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (July 6, 2021)**

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### **Just-published 2018-19 County Grand Jury consolidated report focuses on elder abuse, 9-1-1 call-waiting times and First 5**

The 2018-19 Fresno County Civil Grand Jury consolidated report on investigations into elder abuse, First 5 Fresno County and Fresno's 9-1-1 emergency call center has been published after a delay caused in part by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The consolidated report contains investigative reports, findings and recommendations developed in 2018-19 as well as required responses from the subjects of each investigation.

Traditionally, the consolidated report is published after the jury's one-year term concludes on June 30, but there were delays preparing the document and then COVID protocols further pushed back publication.

Here's what the 2018-19 Grand Jury reported:

- Fresno County needs additional resources to develop and implement a coordinated interagency approach to serving the "silver tsunami" of elders, especially a more robust response to address elder abuse.
- First 5 Fresno must comply with state law on criteria used in appointing its commissioners and properly used surplus funds to construct the Lighthouse for Children building in downtown Fresno.
- The Fresno Police Department's 9-1-1 call center is understaffed and failing to answer emergency calls as quickly as state standards recommend, possibly jeopardizing funding critical to providing and improving this emergency service.

The consolidated report may be accessed electronically on the Fresno County Superior Court website by using the following link:

[http://www.fresno.courts.ca.gov/jury/grand\\_jury/reports\\_responses.php](http://www.fresno.courts.ca.gov/jury/grand_jury/reports_responses.php)

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